

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 NSC-10 SPC-03 DODE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 AID-20 OMB-01 IO-14 H-03 DRC-01

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R 101028Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2339

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ELAB, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH WORKERS ABROAD IN 1973: MANPOWER AND UNEMPLOYMENT
OUTLOOK FOR 1974

REF: ANKARA 9175

NEA/TUR FOR HIRSHORN

1. DURING CALENDAR 1973 SOME 133,500 TURKS, A RECORD,
TOOK WORK ABROAD, MOSTLY IN GERMANY. PROVISIONAL REMITTANCE
FIGURES FOR DECEMBER AMOUNTED TO \$111 MILLION AND REMITTANCES
FOR 1973 AS WHOLE COME TO ABOUT \$1.19 BILLION AND WILL INCREASE
SLIGHTLY WHEN FINAL AMOUNTS FOR DECEMBER ARE IN. THIS IS AN
INCREASE OF 63 PERCENT OVER 1972, AND IS EQUIVALENT TO BETWEEN
90 AND 95 PERCENT OF ALL EXPORT EARNINGS FOR THE YEAR.

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2. FREEZE ON ADDITIONAL WORKERS GOING TO GERMANY STILL IN

EFFECT. WE UNDERSTAND SOME GERMAN EMPLOYERS BEGINNING TO PROTEST AGAINST FREEZE, AND TURKISH AUTHORITIES EXPECT SOME CLARIFICATION OF THE GERMAN POSITION NEXT MONTH WHEN GERMAN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY HEAD, STINGL, VISITS HERE. MEANWHILE, TURKISH AUTHORITIES ARE HOPEFUL THAT MOST OF WORKERS PRESENTLY OUT, SOME 800,000 TO 1,000,000, WILL BE ABLE TO REMAIN ABROAD, AND THAT REMITTANCES WILL IN THE SHORT TERM NOT FALL OFF VERY MUCH.

3. GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR 1974, AS YET NOT FORMALLY APPROVED, IS STILL PROJECTING THAT AN ADDITIONAL 80,000 TURKS WILL TAKE WORK ABROAD DURING THE COMING YEAR. PROGRAM CLAIMED THAT UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN 1973 WAS TEN PERCENT AND WILL RISE TO 11 PERCENT IN 1974, OR ALMOST 1,700,000 PERSONS WILL BE UNEMPLOYED. HOWEVER, THESE STATISTICS REPRESENT QUESTIONABLE PROJECTIONS FROM THE 1965 CENSUS, AND UNEMPLOYMENT CALCULATIONS IN AGRICULTURE, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE MADE ON GUESSTIMATES AT PEAK EMPLOYMENT PERIODS DURING JULY AND AUGUST. IF MORE REALISTIC CONSIDERATIONS WERE GIVEN TO SERIOUS UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WOULD MOST LIKELY HAVE TO BE AT LEAST DOUBLED. PROGRAM HAS NOT GIVEN ANY MAJOR ATTENTION TO PLANNING FOR THE RETURN OF ANY SIZEABLE NUMBERS OF WORKERS FROM ABROAD, OR ON CUTTING BACK ON EXISTING UNEMPLOYMENT.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNEMPLOYMENT, EMPLOYMENT DATA, FOREIGN WORKERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ANKARA00194
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740152/aaaabwsc.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ANKARA 9175
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH WORKERS ABROAD IN 1973: MANPOWER AND UNEMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK FOR 1974
TAGS: ELAB, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005